

**General Assembly**

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**Third Committee**  
Agenda item 110 (b)

**Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms****Note by the Secretariat**

By its resolution 1998/33, the Economic and Social Council took note of resolution 1998/7 of the Commission on Human Rights and recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft declaration annexed thereto on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. The text of the draft declaration is reproduced below.

**Draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the importance of the observance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons in all countries of the world,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights as basic elements of international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the importance of other human rights instruments adopted within the United Nations system, as well as those at the regional level,

*Stressing* that all members of the international community shall fulfil, jointly and separately, their solemn obligation to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinctions based



on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, and reaffirming the particular importance of achieving international cooperation to fulfil this obligation according to the Charter of the United Nations,

*Acknowledging* the important role of international cooperation for and the valuable work of individuals, groups and associations in contributing to the effective elimination of all violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of peoples and individuals, including in relation to mass, flagrant or systematic violations such as those resulting from apartheid, all forms of racial discrimination, colonialism, foreign domination or occupation, aggression or threats to national sovereignty, national unity or territorial integrity, and from refusal to recognize the right of peoples to self-determination and the right of every people to exercise full sovereignty over its wealth and natural resources,

*Recognizing* the relationship between international peace and security and the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and mindful that the absence of international peace and security does not excuse non-compliance,

*Reiterating* that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible and interdependent and interrelated, and should be promoted and implemented in a fair and equitable manner, without prejudice to the implementation of each of those rights and freedoms,

*Stressing* that the primary responsibility and duty to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms lie with the State,

*Recognizing* the right and the responsibility of individuals, groups and associations to promote respect for, and foster knowledge of, human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels,

*Declares:*

#### **Article 1**

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to promote and to strive for the protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels.

#### **Article 2**

1. Each State has a prime responsibility and duty to protect, promote and implement all human rights and fundamental freedoms, *inter alia*, by adopting such steps as may be necessary to create all conditions necessary in the social, economic and political as well as other fields and the legal guarantees required to ensure that all persons under its jurisdiction, individually and in association with others, are able to enjoy all those rights and freedoms in practice.

2. Each State shall adopt such legislative, administrative and other steps as may be necessary to ensure that the rights and freedoms referred to in this Declaration are effectively guaranteed.

#### **Article 3**

Domestic law consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and other international obligations of the State in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms is the juridical framework within which human rights and fundamental freedoms should be implemented

and enjoyed, and within which all activities referred to in this Declaration for the promotion, protection and effective realization of those rights and freedoms should be conducted.

#### Article 4

Nothing in the present Declaration shall be construed as impairing or contradicting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations nor as restricting or derogating from the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other international instruments and commitments applicable in this field.

#### Article 5

For the purpose of promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, at the national and international levels:

- (a) To meet or assemble peacefully;
- (b) To form, join and participate in non-governmental organizations, associations or groups;
- (c) To communicate with non-governmental or intergovernmental organizations.

#### Article 6

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others:

- (a) To know, seek, obtain, receive and hold information about all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including having access to information as to how those rights and freedoms are given effect in domestic legislative, judicial or administrative systems;
- (b) As provided in human rights and other applicable international instruments, freely to publish, impart or disseminate to others views, information and knowledge of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- (c) To study, discuss, form and hold opinions on the observance, both in law and in practice, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, through these and other appropriate means, to draw public attention to those matters.

#### Article 7

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to develop and discuss new human rights ideas and principles, and to advocate their acceptance.

#### Article 8

1. Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to have effective access, on a non-discriminatory basis, to participation in the government of his or her country and in the conduct of public affairs.
2. This includes, *inter alia*, the right, individually and in association with others, to submit to governmental bodies and agencies and organizations concerned with public affairs, criticism and proposals for improving their functioning and to draw attention to any aspect of their work that may hinder or impede the promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

#### Article 9

1. In the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the promotion and protection of human rights as referred to in this Declaration, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to benefit from an effective remedy and to be protected in the event of violation of those rights.
2. To this end, everyone whose rights or freedoms are allegedly violated has the right, either in person or through legally authorized representation, to complain to and have that complaint promptly reviewed in a public hearing before an independent, impartial and competent judicial or other authority established by law, and to obtain from such an authority a decision, in accordance with law, providing redress, including any compensation due, where there has been a violation of that person's rights or freedoms, as well as enforcement of the eventual decision and award, all without undue delay.
3. To the same end, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, *inter alia*:
  - (a) To complain about the policies and actions of individual officials and governmental bodies with regard to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by petitions or other appropriate means to competent domestic judicial, administrative or legislative authorities or any other competent authority provided for by the legal system of the State, which should render their decision on the complaint without undue delay;
  - (b) To attend public hearings, proceedings and trials, so as to form an opinion on their compliance with national law and applicable international obligations and commitments;
  - (c) To offer and provide professionally qualified legal assistance or other relevant advice and assistance in defending human rights and fundamental freedoms.
4. To the same end, and in accordance with applicable international instruments and procedures, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to unhindered access to and communication with international bodies with general or special competence to receive and consider communications on matters of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
5. The State shall conduct a prompt and impartial investigation or ensure that an inquiry takes place whenever there is reasonable ground to believe that a violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms has occurred in any territory under its jurisdiction.

#### Article 10

No one shall participate, by act or failure to act where required, in violating human rights and fundamental freedoms, and no one shall be subjected to punishment or adverse action of any kind for refusing to do so.

#### Article 11

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to the lawful exercise of his or her occupation or profession. Everyone who, as a result of his or her profession, can affect the human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms of others should respect those rights and freedoms and comply with relevant national and international standards of occupational and professional conduct or ethics.

**Article 12**

1. Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to participate in peaceful activities against violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
2. The State shall take all necessary measures to ensure the protection by the competent authorities of everyone, individually and in association with others, against any violence, threats, retaliation, de facto or *de jure* adverse discriminate, pressure or any other arbitrary action as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of the rights referred to in this Declaration.
3. In this connection, everyone is entitled, individually and in association with others, to be effectively protected under national law in reacting against or opposing, through peaceful means, activities and acts, including those by omission, attributable to States that result in violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as acts of violence perpetrated by groups or individuals that affect the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**Article 13**

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to solicit, receive and utilize resources for the express purpose of promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, through peaceful means, in accordance with article 3 of this Declaration.

**Article 14**

1. The State has the responsibility to take legislative, judicial, administrative or other appropriate measures to promote the understanding by all persons under its jurisdiction of their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.
2. Such measures shall include, *inter alia*:
  - (a) The publication and widespread availability of national laws and regulations and of applicable basic international human rights instruments;
  - (b) Full and equal access to international documents in the field of human rights, including the State's periodic reports to the bodies established by the international human rights treaties to which it is a party, as well as the summary records of discussions and the official reports of these bodies.
3. The State shall ensure and support, where appropriate, the creation and development of further independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all territory under its jurisdiction, whether they be ombudsmen, human rights commissions or any other form of national institutions.

**Article 15**

The State has the responsibility to promote and facilitate the teaching of human rights and fundamental freedoms at all levels of education, and to ensure that all those responsible for training lawyers, law enforcement officers, the personnel of the armed forces and public officials include appropriate elements of human rights teaching in their training programme.

#### **Article 16**

Individuals, non-governmental organizations and relevant institutions have an important role in contributing to making the public more aware of questions relating to all human rights and fundamental freedoms through activities such as education, training and research in these areas to strengthen further, *inter alia*, understanding, tolerance, peace and friendly relations among nations and among all racial and religious groups, bearing in mind the various backgrounds of societies and communities, in which they carry out their activities.

#### **Article 17**

In the exercise of the rights and freedoms referred to in this Declaration, everyone, acting individually and in association with others, shall be subject only to such limitations as are in accordance with applicable international obligations and are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.

#### **Article 18**

1. Everyone has duties towards and within the community in which alone the free and full development of his or her personality is possible.
2. Individuals, groups, institutions and non-governmental organizations have an important role to play and a responsibility in safeguarding democracy, promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and contributing to the promotion and advancement of democratic societies, institutions and processes.
3. Likewise, they have an important role and a responsibility in contributing, as appropriate, to the promotion of the right of everyone to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights instruments can be fully realized.

#### **Article 19**

Nothing in the present Declaration shall be interpreted as implying for any individual, group or organ of society or any State the right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of the rights and freedoms referred to in this Declaration.

#### **Article 20**

Nor shall anything in the present Declaration be interpreted as permitting States to support and promote activities of individuals, groups of individuals, institutions or non-governmental organizations contrary to the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

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## Fifty-third session Third Committee

Agenda item 100

Social development, including questions relating to  
the world social situation and to youth, ageing,  
disabled persons and the family

**Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica,  
Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador,  
Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia,  
Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands,  
Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea,  
Republic of Moldova, Romania, Solomon Islands, Spain, Turkey,  
Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
and Zambia: draft resolution**

## The International Year of Older Persons, 1999

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its Proclamation on Ageing,<sup>1</sup> in which, *inter alia*, it designated the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons,

*Recalling also* the conceptual and operational frameworks for the International Year,<sup>2</sup>

*Convinced* of the need to implement the International Plan of Action on Ageing<sup>3</sup> and to promote adherence to the United Nations Principles for Older Persons,<sup>4</sup>

*Mindful* of its resolution 40/30, of 29 November 1985, in which it expressed its conviction that older persons must be considered an important and necessary element in the development process at all levels within a given society,

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 47/5, annex.

<sup>2</sup> A/50/114 and A/52/328.

<sup>3</sup> See *Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July–6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E 82.I.16), chap. VI.

<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution 46/91.



*Mindful* also of the relevant provisions of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>5</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>6</sup> the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,<sup>7</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,<sup>8</sup> and the Habitat Agenda,<sup>9</sup> adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

*Aware* that on the eve of the twenty-first century, the ageing of individuals and populations, unprecedented in the history of humankind, is having far-reaching effects on the way societies organize themselves, on relationships between the generations in families and communities, on the entire course of individual lives, and on the terms, images and roles of older persons in their societies,

*Mindful* of the necessity to include a gender dimension in the preparations for the International Year of Older Persons,

*Wishing* to promote investments in human development over the entire lifespan and in preserving and supporting age-integrated social institutions,

*Convinced* that moving towards a society for all ages will require policies that simultaneously strengthen both individual lifelong development into late life, focused on self-help and independence, and, relatedly, enabling environments of families, neighbourhoods, communities of interest and broad societal institutions based on principles of reciprocity and interdependence,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the successful launching of the International Year of Older Persons, with the theme "A society for all ages", on 1 October 1998 around the world and at United Nations Headquarters by the Secretary-General;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the valuable report of the Secretary-General entitled "Preparations for the International Year of Older Persons",<sup>10</sup> including its exploration of a society for all ages, presented for further debate by national committees and others;

3. *Encourages* all States, the United Nations system and all other actors, in reaching out for a future society for all ages, to take advantage of the International Year of Older Persons so as to increase awareness of the challenge of the demographic ageing of societies, the individual and social needs of older persons, the contributions of older persons to society, and the need for a change in attitudes towards older persons;

4. *Welcomes* the activities relating to older persons undertaken by States, United Nations organizations and bodies and non-governmental organizations devoted to raising awareness, networking, reaching out and looking ahead beyond 1999;

<sup>5</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

<sup>6</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

<sup>7</sup> *Report of the World Conference on Human Rights (A/CONF.157/24)*, part I.

<sup>8</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

<sup>9</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution I, annex II.

<sup>10</sup> A/53/294.

5. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to establish a national focal point or broad-based committee for the Year and re-emphasizes that activities for the Year should be initiated primarily at the national level;
6. *Welcomes* the redesignation of the intergovernmental Support Group as the Consultative Group and invites it to continue its contributions to the observance of the Year;
7. *Recommends* that the Commission for Social Development should mainstream the issue of older persons in the work of the Commission and in the preparatory work for the review session of the World Summit for Social Development in the year 2000;
8. *Calls upon* States, United Nations agencies and bodies and institutions of civil society, including the research community, to avoid age and gender bias in their treatment of older women in order to ensure that all older women have equal access to the private sector and to social services and to ensure their full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;
9. *Encourages* States to embody the rights of older persons to equal access to and the use of social services, including care-giving systems and support services, without any discrimination, in appropriate legislation;
10. *Urges* that the issue of older persons be mainstreamed in the work of the United Nations and national socio-economic programmes and plans, as appropriate;
11. *Invites* national committees to consider the desirability of drawing up:
  - (a) A set of principles for a society for all ages;
  - (b) Practical strategies for a society for all ages, aimed at mainstreaming ageing into programmes and policies, while ensuring that the immediate developmental, income-security and health-care needs of older persons are met;
12. *Invites* national and international development entities, foundations and enterprises to explore ways of improving older persons' access to credit, training and appropriate technologies for income generation and their participation in family, community and small businesses;
13. *Also invites* the five-year review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to examine the implications of individual and population ageing;
14. *Also invites* the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat to continue its information campaign, intensifying, as feasible, its activities in January 1999 in support of countries that were unable to launch observances on 1 October 1998;
15. *Recommends* that research agendas for the next decades address the socio-economic adjustments required to move towards a society for all ages, entailing, essentially, the lifelong and society-wide, immediate and long-term implications of individual and population ageing within varied national contexts, and, requests the United Nations programme on ageing to give priority attention to the research needs of developing countries;
16. *Invites* the United Nations Volunteers and organizations of older persons to evaluate the contributions of senior volunteers in creating societies for all ages, in keeping with each country's traditions, resources and aspirations;
17. *Notes with appreciation* the valuable role of the media in the preparations for the International Year and in raising awareness of it, and encourages the media, consistent with freedom of expression, to present non-stereotyped images of older persons;

18. *Invites* those institutions of civil society that are playing a vital role at the local, national and international levels in promoting the Year to focus their observance of the International Day of Older Persons (1 October) in 1999 on the theme "Late-life potentials and contributions in a new age";

19. *Requests* States to participate, at an appropriate global policy-making level, in the four plenary meetings which it decided, in resolution 52/80 of 12 December 1997, should be devoted at its fifty-fourth session to the Year and its follow-up;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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## General Assembly

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Fifty-third session  
**Third Committee**  
Agenda item 102  
**International drug control**

**Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zimbabwe: draft resolution**

### **International cooperation against the world drug problem**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling its resolution 52/92 of 12 December 1997,*

*Welcoming the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 1998, and the determination of Governments at the highest political level to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the illicit demand for, production of, and trafficking in drugs, as reflected*



in the Political Declaration,<sup>1</sup> the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>2</sup> and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,<sup>3</sup>

*Gravely concerned* that, despite continued increased efforts by States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, there is a global expansion of the drug problem, which constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all mankind, in particular young people, in all countries, undermines development, socio-economic and political stability and democratic institutions, entails an increasing economic cost for Governments, also threatens the national security and sovereignty of States, as well as the dignity and hope of millions of people and their families, and causes irreparable loss of human lives,

*Deeply alarmed* by the growing and spreading violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups engaged in drug trafficking activities and other criminal activities, such as money laundering and illicit traffic in arms, precursors and essential chemicals, and by the increasing transnational links between them, and recognizing the need for international cooperation and implementation of effective strategies on the basis of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, which are essential to achieving results against all forms of transnational criminal activities,

*Deeply convinced* that the special session made a significant contribution to a new comprehensive framework for international cooperation, based on an integrated and balanced approach with strategies, measures, methods, practical activities, goals and specific targets to be met, and that all States, the United Nations system, and other international organizations, must implement them with concrete actions and that the international financial institutions, such as the World Bank, and the regional development banks, should be invited to include action against the world drug problem in their programmes, taking into account the priorities of States,

*Convinced* that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can make an effective contribution to and should play an active role in addressing the world drug problem,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction<sup>2</sup> that introduces a global approach, recognizing a new balance between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, aims at preventing the use of drugs and at reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse, paying special attention to youth, and is one of the pillars of the new global strategy, and an important initiative of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991–2000, and reaffirming the need for demand reduction programmes,

*Emphasizing equally* the importance of supply reduction as an integral part within a balanced drug control strategy under the principles enshrined in the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development<sup>4</sup> and reaffirming the need for alternative development programmes,

*Underlining* the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues, the leadership role and commendable work of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for

<sup>1</sup> Resolution S-20/2.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution S-20/3.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution S-20/4.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution S-20/4 E.

concerted multilateral action, and the important role of the International Narcotics Control Board as an independent monitoring authority, as set out in the international drug control treaties,

*Recognizing* the efforts of countries that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes to prevent the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and to maintain production at a level consistent with licit demand in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,<sup>5</sup>

*Acknowledging* that there are links, under certain circumstances, between poverty and the increase in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and that the promotion of the economic development of countries affected by the illicit drug trade requires appropriate measures, including strengthened international cooperation in support of alternative and sustainable development activities in the affected areas of those countries, which have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production,

*Stressing* that respect for all human rights is, and must be, an essential component of measures taken to address the drug problem,

*Ensuring* that women and men benefit equally, and without any discrimination, from strategies directed against the world drug problem, through their involvement in all stages of programmes and policy-making,

*Recognizing* that the use of the Internet poses new opportunities and challenges to international cooperation in combating drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking,

## I

### **Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in the fight against the world drug problem**

1. *Reaffirms* that the fight against the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility which must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requiring an integrated and balanced approach, must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and particularly with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in internal affairs of States, and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States to take further actions to promote effective cooperation at the international and regional levels in the efforts to combat the world drug problem so as to contribute to a climate conducive to achieving that end, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,<sup>5</sup> as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>6</sup> the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971<sup>7</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;<sup>8</sup>

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>8</sup> See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November–20 December 1998*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

## II

### International cooperation to counter the world drug problem

1. *Urges* competent authorities, at the international, regional and national levels, to implement the outcome of the special session, within the agreed time-frames, in particular the high priority practical measures at the international, regional or national level, as indicated in the Political Declaration,<sup>1</sup> the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,<sup>2</sup> and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,<sup>3</sup> including the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and their Precursors,<sup>9</sup> the measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking and distribution of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,<sup>10</sup> the measures to promote judicial cooperation,<sup>11</sup> the measures to counter money-laundering,<sup>12</sup> and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;<sup>4</sup>

2. *Renews* its commitment to further strengthening international cooperation and substantially increasing efforts to counter the world drug problem, in accordance with the obligations of States under the United Nations drug control conventions, on the basis of the general framework given by the Global Programme of Action,<sup>13</sup> and the outcome of the special session, and taking into account experience gained;

3. *Calls upon* all States to adopt effective measures, including national laws and regulations, to implement the mandates and recommendations of the Global Programme of Action, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States in accordance with those international instruments, in order to implement the outcome and the goals of the special session;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other concerned intergovernmental and international organizations, within their mandates, and all actors of civil society, notably non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, sports associations, the media and the private sector, to cooperate more closely with Governments in their efforts to promote and implement the actions to fulfil the Global Programme of Action and the outcome of the special session;

5. *Urges* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and other international organizations to assist and support, upon request, transit States, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, aiming at enhancing their capacity to fight illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and also emphasizes the importance of national initiatives, as well as subregional, regional and international cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking;

6. *Reaffirms* that preventing the diversion of chemicals from legitimate commerce to illicit drug manufacture is an essential component of a comprehensive strategy against drug abuse and trafficking, and takes note of the progress made in developing practical guidelines, including those of the International Narcotics Control Board and the

<sup>9</sup> Resolution S-20/4 A.

<sup>10</sup> See resolution S-20/4 B.

<sup>11</sup> Resolution S-20/4 C.

<sup>12</sup> Resolution S-20/4 D.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution S-17/2, annex.

recommendations in implementing article 12 of the 1988 Convention, and calls upon all States to adopt and implement measures to prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacture in accordance with the resolution on the control of precursors, adopted at the special session;<sup>14</sup>

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-second session, in March 1999, on the follow-up to the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;<sup>4</sup>

8. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to examine, at its forty-second session, the proposal for an action plan for the implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which is being elaborated by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in consultation with Member States, taking into account the international agreements and declarations in the area of demand reduction that have been elaborated, in particular the Global Programme of Action,<sup>13</sup> and addressing all policies and programmes to all sectors of society;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to elaborate guidelines in order to facilitate reporting by Governments on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action and progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration<sup>1</sup> of the special session, and to have an efficient collection of reliable data, increase the number of Governments that report updated information on a regular basis, improve the quality of their responses, and avoid duplication of activities;

10. *Calls upon* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to mainstream a gender perspective into all its policies, programmes and activities and requests the Secretariat to integrate a gender perspective into all documentation prepared for the Commission;

11. *Recalls* the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1995,<sup>15</sup> and takes note with satisfaction of the active participation of youth organizations and youth during the special session, and stresses the importance of their continuing to contribute their experiences and to participate in the decision-making processes, in particular in relation to the elaboration of the action plan for the implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

12. *Calls upon* States to adopt effective measures to stem the illicit trade in small arms, which, as a result of its close link to the illicit drug trade, is generating extremely high levels of crime and violence within the societies of some States, threatening the national security and economies of those States;

13. *Notes* the elaboration of an international convention against transnational organized crime by the year 2000, in the framework of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the objectives of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991–2000, under the theme “A global response to a global challenge”, by Member States, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations system;

<sup>14</sup> Resolution S-20/4 B.

<sup>15</sup> Resolution 50/81.

### III

#### Action by the United Nations system

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities so as to increase cost-effectiveness and ensure coherence of action, as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities throughout the United Nations system;
2. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the efficiency of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control,<sup>16</sup> as a tool to promote the coordination and enhancement of drug abuse control activities within the United Nations system;
3. *Urges* the specialized agencies, programmes and funds, including humanitarian organizations, and invites multilateral financial institutions, to include action against the world drug problem in their programming and planning processes, in order to ensure that the integral and balanced strategy which emerged from the special session devoted to countering the world drug problem together is being addressed;

### IV

#### United Nations International Drug Control Programme

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,<sup>17</sup> the Global Programme of Action,<sup>13</sup> the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together and relevant consensus documents;
2. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme:
  - (a) To strengthen cooperation with Member States, as well as with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the special session, which may include adjustment of national laws and policies, development of training programmes and the establishment of mechanisms for data collection and analysis;
  - (b) To strengthen the dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with the international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed on further progress made in this area;
  - (c) To continue, taking into account the outcome of the special session, to include in its report on illicit traffic in drugs an updated assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

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<sup>16</sup> See A/49/139-E/1994/57.

<sup>17</sup> See *Report of International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna 17-26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

(d) To continue the publication of the *World Drug Report* with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all official languages;

3. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to consider ways and means of improving the coordination of United Nations activities related to the world drug problem so as to avoid duplication of such activities, strengthen the efficiency and accomplish the goals approved by Governments;

4. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

5. *Urges* the International Narcotics Control Board to increase efforts to implement all its mandates under international drug control conventions and to continue to cooperate with Governments including by offering advice and technical support to Member States that request it;

6. *Notes* that the International Narcotics Control Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, including through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the meetings of the heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, and encourages them to continue contributing to strengthening regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the special session;

8. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General,<sup>18</sup> and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session and the present resolution.

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<sup>18</sup> A/53/382, A/53/383 and A/53/129-E/1998/58.